

SECRET

VENEZUELA

The situation in Venezuela is still touch and go. President Betancourt's government managed to quell last Friday's revolt by a leftist Marine battalion, but he is not out of the woods yet. His moderate, reform-minded regime is constantly threatened by conservatives who think he is too soft on leftists and by Communists and leftists who think he is not moving fast enough to improve the lot of the working man. His delimma is typical of that facing moderate reformists throughout Latin America.

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